

Texas Education Agency
Division of Federal and State Education Policy

Title I Committee of Practitioners Meeting

July 12, 2016

Approved November 15, 2016

Members present

Shirley Clark, Marti Couch, Alex Dominguez, Brenda Faz-Villarreal, Jayne Tavenner, Nadine Wolfe

Members absent

Martha Anderson, Lane Cartwright, Annette Gregory, Richard Mik, Cris Munoz, Mary Thomas

Proxy members present

None

TEA staff present

Heather Smalley, Anita Villarreal, LaNetra Guess, Kelly Kravitz, Julie Wayman, Sally Partridge, Christine McCormick, Annie Molina

Welcome from Shirley Clark

Shirley called the meeting to order at 9:05.

Previous meeting minutes

- February 23, 2016

Jayne Tavenner made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Marti Couch seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Committee discussion items:

Item: Proposed ESSA Regulations

Presenter: Heather Smalley, TEA

Handouts: Federal Register, May 31, 200.19 Identification of Schools; Accountability Timelines

The implementation timelines established under HB 2804 (an A-F system of accountability ratings) and the proposed ESSA non-regulatory guidance do not allow Texas the time necessary to implement a new accountability system in alignment with the proposed ESSA timelines. The guidance proposes the use of 2016-17 accountability data to identify schools for interventions by the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. States will not have time to develop new systems, gather data, and issue ratings under a USDE-approved accountability system that aligns with ESSA by summer of 2017. TEA wants to create an aligned state and federal accountability system, and the first A-F ratings under HB 2804 will be issued in August of 2018. TEA wants committee consent to draft a public comment to the USDE to address this transition to a new accountability system and issue interventions tied to the new system in summer of 2018. August 1, 2016 is the final date for public comments, with final regulations to be issued October 2016.

Alex Dominguez made a motion to approve this public comment, and Jayne Tavenner seconded it. Further comments can be sent to Performance Reporting at performance.reporting@tea.texas.gov. TEA will submit a public comment by August 1.

Item: McKinney Vento and Foster Care Updates

Presenter: Kelly Kravitz, TEA

Handouts: [McKinney-Vento Homeless Education and Foster Care ESSA Updates](#)

Deadlines for implementation are approaching, with McKinney Vento changes to be implemented by October 1, 2016. School of origin definition has been expanded to include preschool and next grade level; changes impact transportation. Required homeless liaison must have capacity to do the job and ESCs may be involved in required training.

Foster Care changes must be implemented by December 10, 2016. States must coordinate with Child Welfare, and local Title I plans must include assurance that LEAs receiving Title I funds will develop and implement procedures for how transportation to maintain foster youth in their school of origin will be provided, arranged, and funded. LEAs must designate a point of contact for the local child welfare agency. The committee was asked for suggestions on what would be helpful: need help getting message to child welfare agencies so we collaborate on this, need to create a sense of urgency, need ideas for Title I local plans. Anita Villarreal said she would address the Title I local plan later in the meeting.

Public comments have been requested by USDE.

Item: School Improvement and Support Updates

Presenter: Sally Partridge, TEA

Handouts: None

Region 13 will continue to operate the TCDSS contract for a third year 2016-17, and the contract will be rebid next year. PSPs will continue to be funded for Priority school hours, with flexibility for priority schools that met standard. TEA will fund grants to ESCs for Focus Schools next year: \$12,000 plus \$1400 per focus school. There is one more round of TTIPS, Cycle 5; the RFA for this competitive grant will be posted soon on the Texas Register and TEA Grants website, with a due date of September 15 and an

award date of November 18. \$84 million will be awarded to 8-10 applicants, approximately \$8 million per campus. Priority/focus funding next year will be up to \$120,000 per campus if the campus is also IR. If just priority or focus (without IR), it will be approximately \$15,000 per campus. If Priority, the PSP is funded; if IR, there is no PSP funding and a local contract is required; and if focus, schools do not require a PSP.

Item: Title I, Part D and Private Non Profit Updates

Presenter: LaNetra Guess, TEA

Handouts: None

A new webinar on Title I, Part D, Subpart 2 will soon be uploaded for public use on Capacity Building and the link will also be sent to COP members. This webinar provides an overview of Title I, Part D as well as information on the compliance report and resources for program implementation. A schedule of Q&A calls with TEA for LEAs, ESC, and neglected and delinquent facility staff will also be published for July 27, August 17 and August 24.

LEAs are required to include PNPs in Title IV, Part A (new) and Title IV, Part B. New consultation requirements include an affirmation for each program area beginning 2017-18. The PNP committee formed last spring (including COP, LEAs, ESCs) provided feedback for 2016-17 equitable services worksheet, instructions, and affirmations, and a few changes were made. The worksheets and affirmations are due October 3. This same committee will review PNP ESSA program requirements.

Item: Grants Administration EDGAR and ESSA Updates

Presenter: Annie Molina, TEA

Handouts: None

Due dates are approaching for NCLB Consolidated Application - September 1; IDEA - August 26; Carl Perkins – August 31. As deadlines get closer, the system slows down, so earlier submission is better.

New EDGAR FAQs are now posted. Question 9.8 refers to record retention; this may change back to end of grant + 5 years instead of the originally stated end of grant + 7 years.

ESSA updates: For 2017-18 application there will be minimal edits with major changes coming in 2018-19 after ESSA is fully implemented. For 2017-18 the application may move to a new platform rather than eGrants. Changes to the PNP portion of the application are being considered. They are thinking about putting all PNP information on one page instead of spreading it across the application on the program pages. They are also considering putting the PNP Equitable Services Worksheet and Affirmations in the application rather than having them submitted separately. This could slow down negotiations, but it would ensure that PNPs get increases when district funds increase.

The committee was asked to email Annie Molina with suggestions that would make eGrants easier to use.

Item: Title I, Part A Updates

Presenter: Anita Villarreal, TEA

Handouts: Special Report: ESSA's Well-Rounded Education, Funding Opportunities in ESSA

The changes to Foster Care must be implemented by December 2016. Cory Green and Anita met to discuss the easiest way to implement the requirement for including the foster care information in the Title I plan. They are working on a one-page addendum to eGrants (like the one for field trips). This would include the statute addressing foster care requirements, guidance FAQs, and an assurance that the LEA has processes and procedures in place for using Title I, Part A funds if needed for foster transportation. The transportation doesn't have to be funded by Title I, Part A, but there would be the ability to make a reservation as an option. If the reservation was not needed by May 15, the LEA could return any unused funds to the program. Even if an LEA has never had foster children before, procedures must still be in place just in case. This addendum would be a part of the NCLB application so it would be legal and binding, and it would be the LEA Title I plan. In addition, the LEA would need local policies and procedures, and foster care would need to be addressed in the CIP. TEA would also follow up with questions on the compliance report about foster care expenditures. Anita will ask for input from ESCs soon as this document is being developed.

The two handouts are important resources. The Special Report on ESSA's Well-Rounded Education will be discussed with ESCs. Funding Opportunities in ESSA is a good tool to teach LEAs about other program areas, and contains many references to collaboration and coordination.

There is a new Transition to ESSA FAQ dated June 29 which will be posted for ESCs and COP and should be shared.

There is a lot of work to do for ESSA. TEA will work with ESCs in developing guidance for CIPs, adapting or creating resources as needed. USDE rules are due out in October, but that could change. Help us be the voice of calm as we work through this transition. COP will be asked for input, documents will be posted on the COP website, and you will receive email updates.

COP membership is an important issue. We are putting processes in place for nominations and selection of potential new members. Once this is vetted by the Commissioner, we hope to add more members by January 2017. Parents and board members will be added to the committee, and COP members are welcome to recommend someone by email to Anita. This transition year is very important, and current members are asked to attend, or at least respond to communications about meetings.

Toni Garrett showed a new Capacity Building Initiative Reward School video on using learning time showcasing Caillet Elementary School in Dallas ISD, a 2016 National Title I Distinguished School.

Shirley Clark adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

The next meeting will be September 13, 2016.